

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
May 13, 1991

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on May 13, 1991 at Noon at the Parks and Recreation Department, 1500 W. Riverside Drive. Board Members present Beverly Griffith, Lawrence Britton, Albert Black, Ron Cartlidge, Terry Colgan, James Crump, ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres, Agnes Edwards, Phil Friday, and Charles Gandy. Board Members absent: Neil Iscoe. Staff present: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Jody Hamilton, Stuart Strong, George Francis (Budget), Carol Foy, Carolyn Nelson and Donna Bohls.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

There were no citizens to address the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Griffith distributed a packet of materials to all Board Members. Mrs. Griffith discussed the role parks are playing in the tourism business. Austin parks are being used to recruit convention business and tourist trade in Austin and throughout Texas. May 20 will be the first opportunity for the Parks Board to comment on the proposed CIP with final input due to the Planning Commission by June 7. Mrs. Griffith also provided Board Members with a copy of Albert Black's resume. Mr. Black was appointed to the Board May 9 to fill Fred Lewis' unexpired term.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mollinedo informed Board Members of a drive by shooting at Givens Park on Sunday. The victim was hospitalized in critical condition. Department staff will be working closely with the Givens Advisory Board and local community to better control park use. Mr. Mollinedo reported on clean up activities in the Barton Creek Greenbelt sponsored by local bicycle groups. He updated Board Members on the recent closures at Barton Springs Pool due to high fecal coliform counts. Dare to Dance, a Youth At Risk project, had its recital at the Austin Opry House on May 11 and was a great success. Approximately 300 or more people were present to see the very professional show performed by 55 children in the program. Another Youth At Risk project with great success is the Girls Softball Program at Pan Am Recreation Center. The league plays on Monday and Wednesday nights at 6 and 8 p.m. James Crump thanked the Department for removing the cement slab at the base of the natural climbing wall in Bull Creek Park. He reported that several members of the climbing community had worked over the weekend creating a pit at the base of the wall and are anxious for it to be filled with pea gravel.

NEW BUSINESS

Make Recommendation Regarding Swimming Pool Fee Increases

Terry Colgan, Chair of the Program and Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had no recommendation to bring forward to the Board. Mr. Colgan made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to increase the adult entry fee at Barton Springs from \$1.75 to \$2.00 on weekdays and from \$2.00 to \$2.25 on weekends. Swim tickets will increase from \$45.00 to \$52.50 for 40 swims. Adult entry fees at Municipal pools would increase from \$1.50 to \$1.75. Charlie Gandy seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Make Recommendation Regarding Zilker Clubhouse Rental Fee Increases

Terry Colgan, Chair of the Program and Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had no recommendation to bring forward to the Board. Charlie Gandy made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to increase the rental fees at the Zilker Park Clubhouse from \$135 to \$200 for five hours of use. ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres seconded the motion which carried with 1 abstention.

Make Recommendation Regarding Contracting with Private Services for some Services provided to PARD by other Departments

Agnes Edwards moved to support the resolution currently proposed to Council regarding contracting with private providers for some services provided to PARD to save money and reduce down time. James Crump seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approve Program and Budget committee's recommendations for FY 91-92 regarding possible consolidation with the Library Department, moving functions performed by PARD to more appropriate departments, fees & charges, and creation of a trust fund to benefit the Parks and Recreation Department

Charlie Gandy moved and Terry Colgan seconded the motion to recommend to the City Manager and the City Council that filling the vacant Director and Deputy Director of Libraries positions be put on hold until the possibility of departmental consolidation can be reviewed. The Parks and Recreation Board requests that the City Manager prepare such a report for their review. This motion passed unanimously.

Terry Colgan moved and Ron Cartlidge seconded a motion that the following PARD functions (1) Right-of-Way and Median mowing; (2) Cemeteries; and (3) Emergency Tree Trimming be either transferred to a different department or contracted out to private vendors. The motion carried unanimously.

Terry Colgan moved and James Crump seconded the motion to appoint the Programs Committee to draft a plan for the creation of a trust fund for the Parks and Recreation Department. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve a Request for Installation of Traffic Light on Barton Springs Road at Stratford Drive

James Crump moved and Agnes Edwards seconded a motion to request that Council direct that a traffic signal be installed on Barton Springs Road at Stratford Drive to facilitate pedestrian crossing in Zilker Park. The motion carried unanimously.

Make Recommendation Regarding PARD CIP Package

Stuart Strong made a presentation to the Board Members regarding the CIP package and the possibility of CDBG funds for park improvements. Board Members set a public hearing on CIP for two dates (1) May 28 at 1500 W. Riverside Drive, (2) May 29 at Conley Guerrero Senior Activity Center.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

James Crump requested more information on the Veloway, Town Lake Bikeway, and Bull Creek Park improvements. He also requested that the sand used on the Shoal Creek portion of the Hike and Bike Trail be checked for appropriate coarseness. The current sand being used is very fine and is allowing ruts to form when cyclists use the wet trail.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.